

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 19, 2002, I was unable to be present for roll call votes No. 402, Recognizing the Teams and Players of the Negro Baseball Leagues, and No. 403, the Waters Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 3295—Help America Vote Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll No. 402 and "yea" on roll No. 403.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I missed rollcall Nos. 400, 401, 402, and 403 due to attending my brother-in-law's funeral. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea", on all four rollcalls.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I was unexpectedly detained during the vote for H. Res. 523 recognizing the contributions of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERMISSION TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2002, TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1646, FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2002 AND 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers may have until midnight, Monday, September 23, to file a conference report on the bill (H.R. 1646) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2002 and 2003, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 524 and H. Res. 525, the resolutions just agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

REPORT ON H.R. 5410, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mr. KOLBE, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-663) on the bill (H.R. 5410) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes, which was referred to

the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

## LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to inquire about the schedule for next week.

I am pleased to yield to the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman from California for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the House has completed its legislative business for the week. The House will next meet for legislative business on Tuesday, September 24, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 o'clock p.m. for legislative business. I will schedule a number of measures under suspension of the rules, a list of which will be distributed to Members' offices tomorrow. Recorded votes on Tuesday will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, for Wednesday and Thursday, I have scheduled the following measures: a conference report to accompany H.R. 1646, the State Department Authorization Act; a resolution calling for completion as soon as possible for the worker pension security legislation that passed this House in April and has not been considered in the other body; H.R. 4691, the Abortion Nondiscrimination Act of 2002; a continuing resolution; and H.R. 4600, the Health Act of 2002.

I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information. I have some further questions if the gentleman will be available.

I understand the gentleman is saying H.R. 4600, the medical malpractice bill, will be on the floor next week. Could the gentleman give us a little more what day it would be?

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentlewoman for the inquiry; and if the gentlewoman would continue to yield, we expect to deal with that bill on Thursday of next week.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, so it is my understanding that next week we will be in Tuesday night, Wednesday and Thursday again; we have given away Monday and Friday again?

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentlewoman for the inquiry; and if the gentlewoman will yield, in fact, the gentlewoman understood exactly correct.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, we have given away tomorrow, we are giving up next Monday, we are giving up next Friday, and the list of unfinished business continues to grow. The number of legislative days continues to shrink.

Does the gentleman expect the bill to deduct education expenses to be scheduled for next week? If so, on what day?

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentlewoman for the inquiry. I am sorry I did not hear the bill the gentlewoman was referring to.

Ms. PELOSI. The back to school act, so-called.

Mr. ARMEY. Oh, I am sorry. No, I do not expect to see that back on the floor, at least not next week.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, how long will the continuing resolution be?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, I want to thank the gentlewoman for the inquiry. There are consultations going on bicameral and bipartisan in the highest leadership levels and with the two respective bodies' Committees of Appropriations, and that information has not yet been finally agreed to; and when it is, I expect the Speaker will make an announcement, as I would expect the majority leader in the other body to do so as well.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, my understanding is, the gentleman, when asked about this continuing resolution, if we are going to have a lame duck session, et cetera, said that he consults with Puff the Magic Dragon. Puff the Magic Dragon, lame duck, this place is getting more and more like a menagerie or some would say a zoo.

I have some concerns because today we voted on a resolution that urges the Senate to take certain action; but I know there is a bill that has overwhelmingly passed the Senate 78 to 21 that the Congressional Budget Office estimated would lower prescription drug prices by \$60 billion over the next 10 years, \$60 billion. Can the majority leader inform us if that bill will be scheduled before Congress adjourns in October, heeding the gentleman's concern about not following up on business completed by the Senate?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her inquiry, and I understand that perhaps the animal rights caucus may be a little bit concerned about some of the examples we use around here. We do consult with magic dragons, indeed tolerate lame ducks in our committed effort to keep pork off the floor of this House.

That having been said, with respect to the bill the gentlewoman has asked about, this bill is a poor and paltry substitute for a comprehensive prescription drug benefit for American seniors. The House passed a bipartisan comprehensive Medicare prescription drug benefit in June. The Senate has not yet passed a bill. This bill is quite simply not good enough for those of us in the House who did the hard work to pass a real prescription drug benefit bill available to all American seniors, and it remains our hope that we will be able to pass a real prescription drug bill before the end of this year.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, perhaps the gentleman did not hear me. He said that the Senate had not passed a bill. The Senate had passed it 78 to 21, the prescription drug bill relating to generic drugs which would lower the cost by \$60 billion over 10 years, according